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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 46th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. PIRIZ-BALLON (Uruguay)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 78: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.44

1. Mr. SHAUKAT (Pakistan), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, introduced the draft resolution and drew attention to certain of its provisions, including the request to the Secretary-General to prepare a report on an agenda for development containing recommendations on ways of strengthening the role of the United Nations and its relationship with the Bretton Woods institutions in the promotion of international cooperation for development. He hoped that the draft resolution would be supported by the Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 81: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/47/L.52 and L.53

2. Mr. SHAUKAT (Pakistan), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, introduced the two draft resolutions. He drew attention to paragraph 1 of the former, by which the General Assembly would decide to declare 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. With regard to draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.53, he noted in particular the provisions on the importance of domestic policies for the eradication of poverty, the implementation of national programmes, the need for a supportive international environment and the attainment of the agreed target for official development assistance. He hoped that the informal consultations would lead to consensus on the draft resolutions.

AGENDA ITEM 90: STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO STUDY, MITIGATE AND MINIMIZE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.55

3. Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Russian Federation), speaking also on behalf of Belarus and Ukraine, the other sponsors of the draft resolution, said that the draft resolution was based on previous resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council adopted with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations system for mobilizing international cooperation in that area. He quoted the seventh preambular paragraph, which expressed profound concern about the ongoing effects of the Chernobyl disaster on the lives and health of people, and noted with regret that the recent findings of the World Health Organization (WHO) justified that concern. Turning to the operative part of the draft resolution, he drew attention, in paragraph 1, to the priority areas identified by the Inter-Agency Task Force for Chernobyl at its meeting in Kiev (A/47/322/Add.1). The Russian Federation pledged its full cooperation in adopting any necessary corrective measures arising from

(Mr. Kudryavtsev, Russian Federation)

consideration of the report requested from the Secretary-General in paragraph 4. His delegation agreed with the request put forward by certain other delegations for the agenda item to be considered on a biennial basis by the General Assembly. He hoped that all delegations accepted the seriousness with which efforts were being made to minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster and expressed his conviction that the draft resolution would receive unanimous support.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.54

4. Miss DIOP (Senegal) said, in her capacity as Vice-Chairman, that the consultations on the draft resolution had been fruitful and she proposed that it should be adopted on the understanding that paragraph 3 remained within square brackets.

5. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.54, as orally revised, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 87: SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE (continued)

(b) SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.18/Rev.1

6. Miss DIOP (Senegal) said, in her capacity as Vice-Chairman, that the consultations on the draft had been fruitful and she recommended it for adoption.

7. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.18/Rev.1 was adopted.

Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.20/Rev.1

8. The CHAIRMAN said that Benin, Cameroon, Colombia, Kuwait, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Singapore and the United Republic of Tanzania had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. Miss DIOP (Senegal) said, in her capacity as Vice-Chairman, that the consultations had produced satisfactory results and she proposed that the draft resolution should be adopted on the understanding that paragraph 6 was kept within square brackets.

10. Mr. DORANI (Djibouti) said that Algeria, Bangladesh and Morocco had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. He pointed out that the third preambular paragraphs of the French version of the draft should be corrected to read, from the beginning of the fourth line: "a soumis d'une part la fragile infrastructure économique, sociale et administrative du pays à de graves tensions et d'autre part a posé au pays de sérieux problèmes de sécurité". In addition, in paragraph 4 the phrase "appropriate humanitarian

(Mr. Dorani, Djibouti)

assistance" should read "substantial appropriate assistance", with corresponding corrections in the other languages.

11. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.20/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted.

12. Mr. DORANI (Djibouti) welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution and expressed his appreciation to the donor countries and to the international organizations which had given assistance to Djibouti, in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and various non-governmental organizations. He paid special tribute to the coordination activities in that area carried out by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and urged donors to increase their voluntary contributions through the Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

13. The special programmes of economic assistance played an important role for the small developing countries, with fragile and vulnerable economies, by shielding them from external factors, in particular when, as had happened in the case of Djibouti, they were struck by natural or man-made disasters. The relevant report by the Secretary-General (A/47/337) had identified the obstacles which continued to stand in Djibouti's path, namely, periodic flooding, cyclic droughts, desertification, major flows of refugees and displaced persons and the impact of the Persian Gulf crisis on its economy.

14. He stressed that the economy of Djibouti was closely linked to the development of its neighbours, since its own market was small and its infrastructure, which had initially been designed to meet regional needs, was only operating at half-capacity, because of the decline in demand. When necessary, donors had used Djibouti's territory to provide emergency assistance to its neighbours, Somalia and Ethiopia, and during the days to come Djibouti would serve as the point of departure and supply base for the United Nations forces to be deployed in the north of Somalia.

15. In view of the humanitarian and food needs of the Horn of Africa, the strategic geographical situation of Djibouti and its sound railway, road and airport infrastructure, as well as the need to maintain adequate reserves of foodstuffs and medicines as recommended by the UNDRO report (A/47/288), and in the context of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, his delegation proposed that the Department for Humanitarian Affairs should establish a regional warehouse in Djibouti for a rapid and effective response to disasters in the subregion and pledged his country's full cooperation and support for such an endeavour.

SPONSORSHIP OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

16. Mr. KOBAYASHI (Japan) said that China and Portugal had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.43, submitted under item 89 (b) on the United Nations University.

The meeting rose at 4 p.m.